

October 9, 2001

Mr. James A. Lake, President
American Nuclear Society
555 North Kensington Avenue
LaGrange Park, Illinois 60526-5592

Dear Mr. Lake:

Your letter of September 14, 2001, to Chairman Richard A. Meserve and the policy statement issued by the International Nuclear Societies Council (INSC), was provided to me for reply. I appreciate your bringing the policy statement to our attention. I read the statement with interest and commend INSC for its interest in global climate change and the role that nuclear energy can play in reducing CO₂ emissions.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's area of jurisdiction is, of course, just one part of the overall energy picture. One of our principal duties as a regulator is to help ensure that licensees operate nuclear power plants safely. If nuclear power is to remain a part of the energy mix, safe nuclear power plant operation is essential.

Thanks again for your letter and the INSC policy statement.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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